

AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE
U.S. Appln. No. 10/736,076

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 are all the claims pending in the application.

Amended Claim 1 is supported by the description in the specification as originally filed, including, for example, FIG. 3.

No new matter has been added.

Counsel for Applicants wishes to thank the Examiner for the opportunity to conduct an interview on October 26, 2005. The Interview Summary (Form PTOL-413) accurately reflects the discussions that took place during the interview. Also, it is believed that the interview has materially advanced the prosecution of this application. The Statement of Substance of Interview is as follows:

- (A) No exhibit was shown nor was a demonstration conducted.
- (B) Independent Claim 1 was discussed.
- (C) U.S. Patent No. 5,681,467 ("US '467") was discussed.
- (D) Amending Claim 1 in the manner currently amended by this Amendment was discussed.
- (E) The general thrust of the principal argument was that the subject matter of Claim 1 excludes the disclosure of US '467.
- (F) No other pertinent matter was discussed.
- (G) As stated in the Interview Summary, the examiner suggested positively reciting the claims to include language that would distinguish the membrane in the unfolded position during the forming step in order to differentiate over US '467.

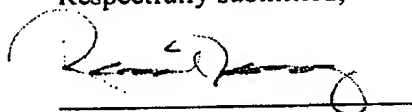
A proper interpretation of amended Claim 1 excludes the scope of US '467. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102/§103 rejection based on US '467.

AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE
U.S. Appln. No. 10/736,076

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



L. Raul Tamayo
Registration No. 47,125

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

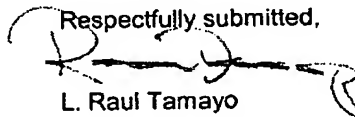
Date: October 31, 2005

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Sir:

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Christopher R. HARMON at the Patent and Trademark Office on October 31, 2005, at (571) 273-8300.

Respectfully submitted,



L. Raul Tamayo